



1-2 #9/Reg Fee \$550 \$RCE
H. b et al.
2/4/04 Mail Stop RCE-116b

**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/556,483

Filing Date: April 21, 2000

First Named Inventor: Kazuaki IWAMURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2126

Examiner: Bullock Jr., Lewis A.

Attorney Docket Number: 05595.0012-00

Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

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Technology Center 2100

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, application must request non-entry of such amendment.

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed:
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

01/30/2004 MAHED1 00000142 09556483

- a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:
- i. ☒ \$770.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Petition for extension of time for (_____ Months) \$ _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$770.00 enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

01 FC:1801

770.00 DP

Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required

Name: Frank A. Italiano

Reg. No.: 53,056

Signature:

Date: January 27, 2004

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

USPS Express Mail Label Number: EL 933205219 US Date of Deposit: January 27, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Services "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, MAIL STOP RCE, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Frank A. Italiano

Signature:

Date: January 27, 2004